

## **American Community Survey Alert, Number 22**

(Released May 28, 2004)

Informing you about news, events, data releases, congressional actions, and other developments associated with the American Community Survey (ACS).

### **News in this Alert**

**\* Census Bureau Releases ACS-Census 2000 Comparison Report on Economic Characteristics**

**\*Census Bureau Releases Second Operational Feasibility Report**

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### **Census Bureau Releases Additional ACS-Census 2000 Comparison Report on Selected Economic Characteristics**

The U.S. Census Bureau today released the fifth in a series of reports designed to address operational and technical aspects of the ACS. This report examines the quality of the ACS by assessing how selected economic characteristics produced by the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey, which used ACS methods, compared with the results of Census 2000. The economic characteristics looked at are: employment status; commute to work; occupation, industry and class of worker; and income and poverty.

This comparison report is the second in a series of reports comparing C2SS single-year national estimates with Census 2000 data. The two remaining reports focus on social and housing data. Here are some findings from this report:

\*At the national level, the C2SS and Census 2000 economic profile estimates reflected very similar distributions.

\*A review of selected sub national results identified only a few substantive differences.

\*Differences in estimates for some characteristics such as employment status and income likely reflect differing reference periods for the C2SS and Census 2000 that result from differences in the timing of data collection for these two surveys.

\*The well-trained interviewers and automated instruments used for the C2SS Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) and Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) operations appear to have had a positive effect on the level of data completeness for the economic characteristics examined in this report.

To view Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> Century Demographic Data Needs—Implementing the American Community Survey, Report 5: Comparing Economic Characteristics with Census 2000, click on <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/AdvMeth/Reports.htm>

## **Census Bureau Releases Second Operational Feasibility Report**

The Census Bureau today released a report providing additional assessments of operational feasibility of the ACS. A report containing initial assessments of operational feasibility was released in July 2001. From 2001-2002, the Census Bureau continued the research and evaluation begun in 2000. This report updates the initial report and provides evidence of improved operational quality, including a successive increase in overall survey response rates: 95.1 percent in 2000; improving to about 96.7 and 97.7 percent in 2001 and 2002, respectively.

To view Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> Century Demographic Data Needs—Implementing the American Community Survey, Report 6: The 2001-2002 Operational Feasibility Report of the American Community Survey, click on <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/AdvMeth/Reports.htm>.

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The ACS is one of three key components of the Census Bureau's re-engineered 2010 Census. The others are early planning and modernization of geographic operations.

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## **CONTACT US**

If you have questions or comments about the American Community Survey, please call (888) 456-7215 or e-mail <[cmo.acs@census.gov](mailto:cmo.acs@census.gov)>.

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